

From Harry S. Truman to Bess W. Truman, February 21, 1937

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Washington, D.C.

Sunday Feb 21

Dear Bess:- I waited in vain for a letter today and so I am late getting this one off. The mail gets heavier and heavier. It's worse than the Wheeler-Rayburn Bill. The nasty things that some of my "friends" have said to me rather hurts sometimes. For instance old man Porter, president of the Power and Light, wrote me the most patronizing letter you ever saw. I burned him to a cinder and mailed it while it was hot. I also let one of my country newspapermen have both barrels, and he came back with sweetest letter you ever saw. I burned him to a cinder and mailed it while it was hot. No it wasn't Mr. Southern. This fellow's up at Maysville. The thing that makes me stronger than ever

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for F.D.R. is that most of these smart alecks tell me I'd better line up with Bennett. Well what would you do if you really believed the plan is right but the approach is wrong. The only thing about it I don't like was his approaching it on a subterfuge. He should have just plainly stated that the count is fossilized on an 1884 basis and then said let's give it some new blood by appointing two or three young men on it. That's what the issue is and that's all it will ever be. Harlan, Clark, Holmes, Stone--all the great dissenters warned of this very situation. The Count has become the bulwark of Hooverism and reaction. They're not immortal nor infallible so why not do the job in a straight forward way.

Kiss Margie, love to you,

Harry